Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A method of forming a semantic description for content data, comprising the steps of:

a)   storing a plurality of component semantic descriptions in a distributed manner and remotely from said content data and retrieving one or more of a said plurality of component semantic descriptions ~~stored remotely from said content data~~ , wherein said retrieving is performed according to reference information associated with said content data, ~~wherein each component semantic description is originally created to semantically describe data other than said content data~~; and

b)   generating said semantic description for said content data using said one or more component semantic descriptions and said reference information associated with said content data, wherein said semantic description describes an underlying meaning of said content data rather than what is in said content data, and wherein said reference information includes one of location of said component semantic descriptions, identity of said component semantic descriptions needed to create said semantic description, and manner of processing said component semantic descriptions to create said semantic description.

2. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said step b) includes modifying said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

3. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said step b) includes extracting a partial semantic description from said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

4. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said step b) includes combining said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

5. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said steps a) and b) are performed in response to a request for said semantic description.

6. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributively stored in a plurality of locations on a network.

7. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 6 wherein said network is the Internet.

8. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 7 further including the step of:

assigning a uniform resource identifier (URI) to each component semantic description stored on the Internet to facilitate access.

9. (Currently Amended)   A method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is <u>distributely</u> stored in a <u>plurality of</u> control dictionar~~y~~<u>ies</u>.

10. (Currently amended)   A computer system comprising:

a bus;

a processor coupled to said bus; and

a memory device coupled to said bus and having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of forming a semantic description for content data, said method comprising the steps of:

a)   <u>storing a plurality of component semantic descriptions in a distributed manner and remotely from said content data and</u> retrieving one or more of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> plurality of component semantic descriptions ~~stored remotely from said content data~~ <u>, wherein said retrieving is performed</u> according to reference information associated with said content data~~, wherein each component semantic description is originally created to semantically describe data other than said content data~~; and

b)   generating said semantic description for said content data using said one or more component semantic descriptions and said reference

information associated with said content data, wherein said semantic description

describes an underlying meaning of said content data rather than what is in said

content data, and wherein said reference information includes one of location of

said component semantic descriptions, identity of said component semantic

descriptions needed to create said semantic description, and manner of

processing said component semantic descriptions to create said semantic

description.

11. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein

said step b) includes modifying said one or more component semantic

descriptions to generate said semantic description.

12. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein

said step b) includes extracting a partial semantic description from said one or

more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

13. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein

said step b) includes combining said one or more component semantic

descriptions to generate said semantic description.

14. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein

said steps a) and b) are performed in response to a request for said semantic

description.

15. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributively stored in a plurality of locations on a network.

16. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said network is the Internet.

17. (Original)   A computer system as recited in Claim 16 wherein each component semantic description stored on the Internet has a uniform resource identifier (URI) to facilitate access.

18. (Currently Amended)   A computer system as recited in Claim 10 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributely stored in a plurality of control dictionaryies.

19. (Currently amended)   A semantic description for content data, comprising:

one or more component semantic descriptions which are retrieved from a plurality of component semantic descriptions stored in a distributed manner and remotely from said content data according to reference information associated with said content data, wherein said one or more component semantic descriptions are processed based on said reference information to form said semantic description, wherein each component semantic description is originally created to semantically describe data other than said content data, wherein said

semantic description describes an underlying meaning of said content data rather than what is in said content data, and wherein said reference information includes one of location of said component semantic descriptions, identity of said component semantic descriptions needed to create said semantic description, and manner of processing said component semantic descriptions to create said semantic description.

20. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein said one or more component semantic descriptions are modified to form said semantic description.

21. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein a partial semantic description is extracted from said one or more component semantic descriptions to form said semantic description.

22. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein said one or more component semantic descriptions are combined to form said semantic description.

23. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein said one or more component semantic descriptions are retrieved in response to a request for said semantic description.

24. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributively stored in a plurality of locations on a network.

25. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 24 wherein said network is the Internet.

26. (Original)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 25 wherein each component semantic description stored on the Internet has a uniform resource identifier (URI) to facilitate access.

27. (Currently Amended)   A semantic description as recited in Claim 19 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributely stored in a plurality of control dictionaryies.

28. (Currently amended)   A method of forming a semantic description for content data, comprising the steps of:

a)   storing a plurality of component semantic descriptions in a distributed manner and remotely from said content data and retrieving one or more of a said plurality of component semantic descriptions stored remotely from said content data, wherein each component semantic description is originally created to semantically describe data other than said content data; and

b)   generating said semantic description for said content data using said one or more component semantic descriptions, wherein said semantic

description describes an underlying meaning of said content data rather than what is in said content data.

29. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 28 wherein said step b) includes modifying said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

30. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 28 wherein said step b) includes extracting a partial semantic description from said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

31. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 28 wherein said step b) includes combining said one or more component semantic descriptions to generate said semantic description.

32. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 28 wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is distributively stored in a plurality of locations on a network.

33. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 28 wherein said network is the Internet.

34. (Original)   A method as recited in Claim 33 further including the step of:

assigning a uniform resource identifier (URI) to each component semantic

description stored on the Internet to facilitate access.

35. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 28

wherein said plurality of component semantic descriptions is <u>distributely</u> stored

in a <u>plurality of</u> control dictionar~~y~~<u>ies</u>.